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DISSEMINATION CONTROL ABBREVIATIONS

NOFORN-	Not Releasable to Foreign Nationals
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Page 1 of 2Attachment to Z-10825/82
NPIC/PEG (6/82)
2 PART GRAPHIC

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SLBM HANDLING/LOADING OPERATIONS
HSIAO-PING-TAO SLBM SUPPORT FACILITY, CHINA

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1. (S/D) SIGNIFICANCE: CHINESE SUBMARINE LAUNCHED BALLISTIC MISSILE HANDLING/LOADING PRACTICES MAY RESEMBLE THOSE THE U.S. AND USSR DEVELOPED FOR SOLID FUELED SLBMS.
2. (S/D) REMARKS: A POSSIBLE SLBM HANDLING/LOADING CANISTER IS ON A TRANSPORTER AT HSIAO-PING-TAO SLBM SUPPORT FACILITY. THE HANDLING/LOADING CANISTER INCLUDED _____
_____ SECTIONS WHICH MAY EQUATE TO THE WU-1 SLBM CANISTER AND A POSSIBLE WINCHING MECHANISM (GRAPHIC 1 OF 2). THIS HANDLING/LOADING CANISTER MAY HAVE BEEN DELIVERED BY THE WU-1 TRAIN WHICH HAD ARRIVED AT HSIAO-PING-TAO SLBM SUPPORT FACILITY MAIN BASE _____ A SIMILAR HANDLING/LOADING CANISTER HAS BEEN SEEN AT HSIAO-PING-TAO SUBMARINE BASE _____ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PRESENCE OF THE G-CLASS BALLISTIC MISSILE SUBMARINE. AN OBJECT SIMILAR IN APPEARANCE HAS ALSO BEEN SEEN AT WUZHAI SSM R/D/TRAINING LAUNCH SITE A1/A2/A3 _____, FIVE MONTHS PRIOR TO THE FIRST CONFIRMED LAUNCH OF THE WU-1, THIS OBJECT APPEARED TO BE SUSPENDED OVER THE WU-1 SILO AND MAY HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH TRAINING IN LOADING PROCEDURES.

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THE HYPOTHESIZED USE OF THE _____ CANISTER FOR HANDLING/LOADING IS SIMILAR TO PROCEDURES USED BY BOTH THE SOVIET UNION AND THE U.S. FOR LOADING SOLID-FUELED SLBMS. IN BOTH COUNTRIES THE ESSENTIAL PIECE OF EQUIPMENT IS A CANISTER WHICH HOUSES THE MISSILE AND AN INTERNAL OR ATTACHED WINCHING MECHANISM. THE CANISTER IS POSITIONED OVER THE MISSILE LAUNCH TUBE BY A CRANE, AND ATTACHED TO THE LAUNCH TUBE.

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THE MISSILE IS THEN LOWERED THROUGH THE CANISTER INTO THE LAUNCH TUBE BY THE WINCHING MECHANISM. THIS LOADING PROCEDURE IS REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN THE STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY OF THE PROPELLANT. AT NENOKSA MTC LAUNCH FACILITY B [REDACTED] DURING TESTING OF THE SS-N-17 SLBM, THE MISSILE LOADING OPERATION WAS IMAGED AND SHOWED THE MISSILE CANISTER POSITIONED ON TOP OF THE LAUNCH TOWER. A SIMILAR TYPE OF ACTIVITY WAS OBSERVED IN AUGUST 1981 AT WUZHAI A1/A2/A3, SUGGESTING THAT A HANDLING/LOADING CANISTER WAS IN USE. (GRAPHIC 2 OF 2)

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3. [REDACTED] COORDINATES 38-52-40N 121-29-30E

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COMMENTS AND QUERIES REGARDING THIS BRIEFING BOARD MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE NPIC/PEG OPERATIONS OFFICER.

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